

Europe Offshore

Low-Carbon Intelligence Briefing

Week Ending 17 October 2026 · Non-UK Europe · Prepared for North East Scotland Energy Supply Chain

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The week to 17 October 2026 brought one firm installation award, the close of Europe's largest offshore wind tender and a clear warning from geothermal.

On 14 October DEME announced a contract worth EUR 50 million to EUR 150 million from Vattenfall and Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners to transport and install 69 turbines at the 1 GW Zeevonk project off Bergen aan Zee in the Dutch North Sea, using its new jack-up Norse Energi from 2028, subject to final investment decision. In France, bids for the merged AO10 tender, 11 projects and around 10 GW split roughly evenly between fixed-bottom and floating, closed at noon on 12 October; the regulator CRE now has 12 to 14 weeks to rank them, with awards expected in early 2027. In Ireland, Fugro completed its 2026 survey campaign for EirGrid's south coast grid programme serving the 900 MW Tonn Nua project.

Hydrogen and CCUS produced named counterparties rather than final investment decisions. EWE and VERBUND formed a joint venture on 13 October for an electrolyser of up to 500 MW at Nordenham in Lower Saxony, targeting about 50,000 tonnes a year from 2032, with no FID date set. ITM Power's build-own-operate arm Hydropulse signed heads of terms with an unnamed European refinery for a 150 MW, 10-year supply project, with FEED under way, FID targeted for 2027 and production from 2029. In Norway, Subsea7 awarded Worley Rosenberg the fabrication of subsea structures and spools for Northern Lights Phase II, which lifts capacity from 1.5 to more than 5 million tonnes a year by 2028. In the Netherlands, Eni became the third holder of a CO2 storage licence in the Aramis system, after Shell and TotalEnergies.

Geothermal carried the week's most important risk signal: on 15 October Eavor withdrew both drilling rigs from its Geretsried closed-loop project in Bavaria, postponing the second loop indefinitely, and the local heat buyer called it a severe setback. Elsewhere in geothermal, Veitur is mobilising for five wells at Laugardalur in Reykjavik, drilling from October 2026 to May 2027. Minesto completed a 48-hour recovery, service and redeployment of its Dragon 4 tidal plant in the Faroe Islands.

In hydropower, Serbia agreed a schedule for Djerdap 3 studies, and the Bistrica project in Bosnia and Herzegovina is now more than EUR 171 million over its original cost.

On the Norwegian shelf, DOF won a USD 15 million to 25 million subsea decommissioning campaign for Q1 2027, and Equinor scaled back the Troll electrification project.

No new offshore wind auctions, FIDs or turbine orders were confirmed elsewhere in non-UK Europe this week.

Headline Signals — Week Ending 17 October 2026

- DEME won the transport and installation of 69 turbines at the 1 GW Zeevonk project in the Dutch North Sea for Vattenfall and CIP. The contract is worth EUR 50m to EUR 150m and uses the jack-up Norse Energi from 2028, subject to FID.
- France's AO10 tender closed to bids at noon on 12 October: 11 projects totalling around 10 GW, roughly 5 GW fixed-bottom and 5 GW floating. CRE ranks bids over 12 to 14 weeks and awards are expected in early 2027.
- Fugro completed its 2026 marine and coastal survey campaign for EirGrid's Powering Up Offshore South Coast programme, which serves ESB and Orsted's 900 MW Tonn Nua project off County Waterford.
- EWE and VERBUND formed a joint venture for an electrolyser of up to 500 MW at Nordenham (CHC Elektrolyse JadeWeser), targeting about 50,000 t a year from 2032. No FID date has been set.
- ITM Power's Hydropulse signed heads of terms with an unnamed European refinery for a 150 MW, 10-year build-own-operate hydrogen supply. FEED is under way, with FID targeted for 2027 and first production in 2029.
- Subsea7 awarded Worley Rosenberg the fabrication of subsea structures and spools for Northern Lights Phase II, which expands capacity to more than 5 Mt a year by 2028.
- Eni received the third CO2 storage licence in the Dutch Aramis system, after Shell and TotalEnergies. CO2 injection is still several years away.
- Eavor withdrew both drilling rigs from its Geretsried closed-loop geothermal site on 15 October and postponed the second loop indefinitely. The heat buyer ILN is reassessing output and viability.
- Minesto recovered, serviced and redeployed its Dragon 4 tidal plant at Vestmannastrandir in the Faroe Islands within 48 hours, its fastest turnaround to date.
- DOF won a subsea decommissioning campaign worth USD 15m to 25m from an unnamed North Sea operator, covering infrastructure removal and seabed clearance across several fields in Q1 2027.

Offshore Wind — Fixed Bottom

DEME to install Zeevonk turbines

DEME announced on 14 October that it has signed a contract for the transport and installation of 69 wind turbines at Zeevonk, the roughly 1 GW Dutch North Sea project jointly owned by Vattenfall and Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners through its Energy Investment Fund I. The site lies 63 to 84 kilometres off Bergen aan Zee. DEME classes the contract as sizable, which on its scale means EUR 50 million to EUR 150 million. Its next-generation jack-up, Norse Energi, will install the turbines in the first phase, with mobilisation in 2028 and completion expected in 2029. DEME already holds the Zeevonk foundation installation contract, awarded in July 2026, so it now covers both foundations and turbines. Boskalis holds the inter-array cable contract, reported in our 3 October briefing. The project remains subject to final investment decision.

NES SALES OPPORTUNITY

Zeevonk now has its main marine primes in place

With DEME holding foundation and turbine installation and Boskalis the array cables, Zeevonk's main marine contractors are now known, more than a year before offshore work starts. The scopes North East Scotland firms can win sit underneath them: seafastening and grillage design, lifting and rigging, sea-fastening inspection, marine warranty support, vessel crewing, turbine pre-assembly support at the marshalling port and installation-phase survey. Approach DEME's Zeevonk project team and Vattenfall's package managers in the first half of 2027, while subcontract lists are still being built and before the FID.

Survey phase completed for Ireland's south coast grid

Fugro announced on 16 October that it has completed its 2026 marine and coastal survey campaign for EirGrid, Ireland's transmission operator, under the Powering Up Offshore South Coast programme. The campaign covered almost 70,000 hours of survey work across 2,337 kilometres of sea area. Its data will inform engineering, environmental and planning work for possible offshore substations, subsea cable corridors and onshore grid connections for Tonn Nua, the 900 MW fixed-bottom project being developed by ESB and Orsted off County Waterford, and for other south coast projects. It follows the 2025 campaign, which surveyed 3,770 kilometres of seabed. EirGrid has already launched the main offshore transmission procurement for Tonn Nua.

NES SALES OPPORTUNITY

Tonn Nua is moving from survey to transmission design and procurement

With the survey data now in, EirGrid's next stage is engineering and procurement for the offshore substation and export cables. North East Scotland firms in cable route engineering, cable protection, UXO risk management, substation integrity and marine coordination should register with EirGrid's procurement portal and contact ESB and Orsted's Tonn Nua team. Irish work is close to home and English-speaking, which makes it one of the easiest non-UK markets to enter.

No other fixed-bottom contract awards, FIDs or auction results were confirmed in non-UK Europe this week. Coverage of Vattenfall's Danish awards at Hesselø and North Sea I Mid this week was comment on the 4 August 2026 tender result rather than a new award. Nordlicht I monopile completion and Baltic Power turbine installation were covered in our 3 and 10 October briefings.

Floating Wind

France's AO10 closed to bids at noon on 12 October. The tender merges the former AO9 and AO10 procedures into France's largest offshore wind round so far: 11 projects totalling about 10 GW, of which seven are floating and four fixed-bottom. The floating capacity, around 5 GW, is spread across north-west Brittany (1.2 GW), the South Atlantic and the Gulf of Lion, and three of the floating sites are 500 MW extensions of projects awarded under AO5 and AO6. The fixed-bottom capacity is concentrated at three 1.35 GW lots at Fecamp Grand Large plus Oleron 1, which drew no bids in an earlier round. CRE has not disclosed the bidders. It has 12 to 14 weeks to rank the offers before the energy minister designates winners, with awards expected in early 2027 and commissioning between 2035 and 2038. In July 2026 the

European Commission approved a EUR 63 billion support scheme for the 11 farms. Trade press reported before the deadline that TotalEnergies' chief executive had questioned whether every candidate would bid.

In Norway, the Conservative Party (Hoyre) signalled on 13 October that it supports moving forward with Utsira Nord under the revised support terms published with the 2027 state budget, which we covered last week. That makes parliamentary approval of the NOK 35 billion support frame more likely.

NES SALES OPPORTUNITY

AO10 evaluation is the window to be named in winning supply chains

The bids are now in, so the useful work is with likely winners during CRE's 12 to 14 week evaluation, before awards in early 2027. Floating lots in Brittany and the Mediterranean will need mooring design, anchor and chain supply, dynamic cable engineering, tow-out and hook-up marine operations, and integrity management. North East Scotland mooring, subsea and marine-operations specialists should prepare French-language capability statements and target the bidding consortia and French ports (Brest, Port-la-Nouvelle, Fos) now. In Norway, Utsira Nord's improving political support makes early engagement with the two consortia worthwhile.

Hydrogen

EWE Hydrogen and VERBUND Green Hydrogen agreed on 13 October to set up a project company, CHC Elektrolyse JadeWeser, for an electrolyser of up to 500 MW south of Nordenham in Lower Saxony. The site has a nearby 380 kV grid connection, access to the planned German hydrogen core network, cavern storage nearby and room to expand towards the gigawatt range. Output is targeted at about 50,000 tonnes of green hydrogen a year, with supply possible from 2032. The partners have not disclosed an investment figure or an FID timetable. Separately, ITM Power's Hydropulse subsidiary signed heads of terms on 12 October with an unnamed European oil refinery for a 150 MW build-own-operate project on ITM's Alpha platform under a 10-year agreement. The refinery will provide the site and utilities. FEED is under way, FID is targeted for 2027 and production for 2029, all subject to definitive agreements.

Smaller items: in Finland, the gas transmission operator Gasgrid issued the country's first guarantees of origin for renewable e-methane from P2X Solutions' plant at Harjavalta, which can be traded into European markets via Balticconnector (16 October). Alquion took FID on a 500 kW flexible electrolyser at Nyrstar's zinc smelter in Budel, Netherlands, and Perpetual Next and Lhyfe took a first step towards a supply deal for up to 12,000 t a year of renewable hydrogen at Delfzijl (both 15 October). EDF is reported to be preparing to sell its hydrogen subsidiary Hynamics to Hy24 in early 2027.

NES SALES OPPORTUNITY

Nordenham and the Hydropulse refinery project are early-stage engineering targets

Neither project has reached FID, so engineering and studies come before hardware. Nordenham's coastal site, with cavern storage and core-network access, will need site investigation, pipeline and storage interface studies and hazardous-area design. Hydropulse's refinery project is in FEED now, with FID in 2027. North East Scotland process-safety, hazardous-area E and I, pipeline integrity and

compression specialists should approach EWE Hydrogen and VERBUND Green Hydrogen, and ITM Power's Hydropulse team, offering FEED-stage studies and early integrity input.

CCUS

In Norway, Subsea7 awarded Worley Rosenberg the fabrication of subsea structures and spools for Northern Lights Phase II, the Equinor, Shell and TotalEnergies venture at Oygarden near Bergen (reported 15 to 16 October). Phase II, sanctioned in March 2025, lifts CO2 transport and storage capacity from 1.5 to more than 5 million tonnes a year by 2028. Worley Rosenberg fabricated comparable structures for Phase I in 2023. In the Netherlands, Eni was granted a CO2 storage licence within the Aramis system, after Shell and TotalEnergies, so all three planned Aramis stores are now licensed, although injection is still several years away (16 October). The state investor Invest International also put EUR 1 million into Amsterdam direct-air-capture company Skytree. Last month's commercial start-ups at Greensand and Yara Sluiskil are carry-over and not repeated here.

NES SALES OPPORTUNITY

Northern Lights Phase II subcontracts flow through Subsea7

Subsea7 is the installation prime for the Phase II subsea scope and is now placing fabrication work. Remaining packages for a 2028 start-up include NDT and weld inspection, coating, pre-commissioning, flooding and hydrotesting, subsea tie-in support, ROV and survey. North East Scotland subsea services firms should approach Subsea7's Northern Lights Phase II project team in Stavanger this quarter, and offer Worley Rosenberg inspection and testing support. Aramis now has its three storage licensees, so Shell, TotalEnergies and Eni will start procuring well, platform and monitoring work over the next few years. Track this as a longer-term CO2 well-integrity market.

Marine Energy

Minesto announced on 15 October that it recovered, serviced and redeployed a Dragon 4 tidal power plant at Vestmannasund in the Faroe Islands within 48 hours, its fastest turnaround so far. The intervention included recovering the kite, removing the nacelle to inspect the upgraded generator after its first 10 weeks of operation, maintenance, reassembly, function checks and redeployment, timed for a low-production tidal period. Minesto presents rapid swap-out of spare modules as central to its cost-of-energy case. Orbital Marine Power's EU go decision for the EURO-TIDES array is a UK (Orkney) project and is outside the scope of this briefing. Otherwise, non-UK marine energy was quiet.

NES SALES OPPORTUNITY

Faroe tidal operations favour fast-turnaround marine services

Minesto's model depends on short, frequent recovery campaigns rather than infrequent major interventions. That suits North East Scotland firms with small-vessel marine operations, lifting and rigging, mooring inspection and quick-response ROV services. Approach Minesto's Faroe operations

team about framework support for future Dragon interventions; Orkney experience is directly relevant and the Faroes are a short sea trip away.

Hydropower

Serbia's Ministry of Mining and Energy agreed a work schedule on 16 October with a consortium led by the Jaroslav Cerni Water Institute. The consortium will prepare a pre-feasibility study with general design, and a special-purpose spatial plan with strategic environmental assessment, for the Djerdap 3 pumped storage plant on the Danube. Six companies answered a separate call for the remaining design and technical documentation, and a Bechtel and Enka consortium has qualified to move to negotiations. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the cost of the Bistrica hydropower project has risen to more than EUR 171 million, about two-thirds above plan, and a further recapitalisation is raising financing concerns (13 October). HYDRO 2026 ran in Bologna from 14 to 16 October. Bids for Bulgaria's EUR 350 million Yadenitsa dam tender remain due on 4 November.

NES SALES OPPORTUNITY

Djerdap 3 points to a Bechtel and Enka led design phase

Djerdap 3 is still at pre-feasibility, but Bechtel and Enka are the likely design and engineering partners, and both use specialist subcontractors for geotechnical investigation, instrumentation and project controls. North East Scotland firms should open contact with the Bechtel and Enka team while the scope is still being defined. Meanwhile, the 4 November Yadenitsa deadline remains the nearest dated hydropower bid. The Bistrica overrun is a warning to price risk carefully on Balkan hydropower work.

Geothermal

Eavor confirmed on 15 October that it is removing both drilling rigs from the Gelting site of its Geretsried closed-loop project in Bavaria, because keeping idle rigs and services on site was too expensive. Construction of the second Eavor Loop is postponed indefinitely and no restart date has been given. The first loop keeps operating, and Eavor says it is restructuring the project's commercial arrangements. Isar-Loisach-Naturwaerme, the Stadtwerke Geretsried subsidiary that signed the heat-supply contract in 2024, called the delay a severe setback and is reassessing expected heat output and viability. The project had won a EUR 91.6 million EU Innovation Fund grant, and the EIB had signalled possible loan finance of up to EUR 45 million.

Elsewhere: Reykjavik utility Veitur is mobilising a rig for five wells at Laugardalur, four at Engjateg from October and one at Bolholt by November, to depths of 800 to 1,500 m, with all drilling due to finish by May 2027 (13 October). Alfortville, south-east of Paris, inaugurated a new geothermal triplet that replaces a 1980s installation (15 October). ENNA Geo completed the purchase of IGeoPen's geothermal assets in Croatia (14 October), and a CO₂ recovery plant at the Piancastagnaio geothermal power station in Italy is nearing completion (16 October).

NES SALES OPPORTUNITY

Geretsried shows the risk in first-of-a-kind deep geothermal; Iceland and Paris are steadier

Geretsried is the flagship deep closed-loop project in Europe, and its pause is a reminder to check counterparty finances and payment terms before committing resources to novel geothermal technology. Stalled projects can still need well integrity, monitoring and suspension services, so North East Scotland well-engineering firms should keep in touch with Eavor's European team without extending credit exposure. The steadier geothermal demand is in conventional heat programmes: Veitur's five-well Reykjavik campaign runs to May 2027 and Paris basin triplets keep appearing. Offer well-integrity, completion and casing inspection services to Veitur and to Paris basin operators.

Decommissioning and Norwegian Continental Shelf

DOF Group announced on 12 October a significant contract, which DOF defines as USD 15 million to 25 million, with an unnamed North Sea operator for a subsea decommissioning campaign. The scope is project management, engineering, offshore execution and disposal: removing subsea infrastructure and clearing the seabed across several fields, using one of DOF's construction support vessels, in Q1 2027. DOF did not say which shelf the fields are on, so the contract may not be in Norwegian waters. On the Norwegian shelf, Equinor and its Troll partners told the Ministry of Energy on 15 October that the Troll West Electrification project will end once the first electric export compressor on Troll C is commissioned, dropping a second compressor that would have cut production for up to 21 months. Equinor says this frees about 2.3 billion cubic metres of extra gas in 2027 and 2028. Equinor also reported the 30/8-7 S Grimsnes discovery near Oseberg with Petoro and TotalEnergies, and planned for a fast development (14 October). It extended Odfjell Drilling's Deepsea Atlantic contract into late Q4 2027 (16 October).

NES SALES OPPORTUNITY

DOF's Q1 2027 decommissioning campaign means subcontracts are being placed now

DOF will deliver this campaign mostly in-house, but disposal, waste handling, cutting tools, onshore receipt and recycling and environmental survey are often subcontracted. With offshore work in Q1 2027, DOF will place those subcontracts over the next three to four months. North East Scotland decommissioning yards, cutting-tool and waste-management firms should approach DOF's projects team in Bergen and Aberdeen now, and ask which shelf the fields are on. The Troll decision means Troll C will keep running at full gas output longer, so plan for a later decommissioning date and steady brownfield maintenance demand.

Industry and Policy

There were few policy decisions in non-UK Europe this week; the main market event, the AO10 bid deadline, is covered under Floating Wind. Greece said on 15 October that the developer of the EU-backed Great Sea Interconnector, linking the European mainland to Cyprus and later Israel, has applied for a licence to resume seabed surveys, a key step for the long-delayed project. In Ireland, Aventa acquired Irish Sea Contractors of County Wexford. Equinor and Eneco signed a five-year gas supply agreement with verified emissions data (13 October).

Priority Action Table

Ten NES sales opportunities from this week's briefing, ranked by commercial proximity. HIGH = engage in next 30 days; MEDIUM = engage in next 60-90 days; LOW-MED = position-building 6-12 months.

#	Opportunity	Sector	Target Counterparties	Window	Priority
1	DOF subsea decommissioning campaign, USD 15-25m, Q1 2027 — cutting, disposal, waste handling, onshore receipt, survey	Decom	DOF Group projects team, unnamed North Sea operator	Q1 2027	HIGH
2	French AO10, approx 10 GW, under CRE evaluation — moorings, dynamic cables, marine operations for likely winners	Floating	AO10 bidding consortia, CRE, Brest and Fos ports	Awards early 2027	HIGH
3	Northern Lights Phase II subsea scope — NDT, coating, pre-commissioning, hydrotest, tie-in support, ROV	CCUS	Subsea7, Worley Rosenberg, Northern Lights JV	Ops 2028	HIGH
4	Bulgaria Yadenitsa dam, EUR 350m (carry-over) — tunnel instrumentation, gates and valves, heavy lift	Hydro	NEK, bidding heavy-civil consortia	Bids 4 Nov	HIGH
5	Zeevonk 1 GW, DEME turbine and foundation T&I — seafastening, lifting, marine warranty, installation survey	Fixed Wind	DEME, Vattenfall, CIP, Boskalis	Install 2028	MEDIUM
6	Tonn Nua 900 MW and EirGrid south coast grid — cable route engineering, protection, UXO, substation integrity	Fixed Wind	EirGrid, ESB, Orsted, Fugro	Procure 2027	MEDIUM
7	Veitur Laugardalur five-well campaign and Paris basin triplets — well integrity, completion, casing inspection	Geothermal	Veitur, Paris basin heat operators	Drill to May 2027	MEDIUM
8	Hydropulse 150 MW refinery project and EWE-VERBUND Nordenham 500 MW — FEED-stage safety, E and I, integrity studies	Hydrogen	ITM Power Hydropulse, EWE Hydrogen, VERBUND Green Hydrogen	FID 2027	MEDIUM
9	Minesto Dragon 4 in the Faroe Islands — rapid-turnaround marine operations, lifting, mooring inspection, ROV	Marine	Minesto Faroe operations	Live now	LOW-MED
10	Djerdap 3 pumped storage pre-feasibility — geotechnical, instrumentation and project-controls subcontracts	Hydro	Bechtel and Enka, Jaroslav Cerni Institute, Serbian ministry	Design 2027	LOW-MED

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